

Message Text

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17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-07 EUR-12 /077 W
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R 282010Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1974

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, MILI, PE

SUBJECT: VISIT TO PERU OF CHILEAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE HERMAN BRADY

REF: A) SANTIAGO 10120 B) LIMA 9849

1. CHILEAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE GENERAL HERMAN BRADY RETURNED FROM HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO PERU ON OCTOBER 25. BRADY TOLD THE PRESS HE HAD TALKED AT LENGTH WITH PERUVIAN PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ AS WELL AS OTHER PERUVIAN OFFICIALS. ON OCTOBER 28, THE PRESS REPORTED THE CHILEAN AMBASSADOR IN PERU AS HAVING SAID THAT MORALES HAD ACCEPTED AN INVITATION BY PINOCHET TO MEET SOON BUT DID NOT SET A PLACE. A PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE BRADY VISIT WAS PRESUMABLY TO CONVEY THIS INVITATION.

2. RESPONDING TO PRESS QUERIES, GENERAL BRADY SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED TO MORALES ABOUT THE CUBAN PRESENCE IN PERU AND ABOUT THE PERUVIAN PURCHASE OF NEW MILITARY (I.E., SOVIET) AIRPLANES. REGARDING THE CUBANS, BRADY SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT PERU WAS "REEMPHASIZING ITS NATIONAL VALUES AND PURIFYING (LIMPIANDO) THE COUNTRY," HIS CIRCUITOUS WAY OF SAYING CUBAN AND, IN GENERAL MARXIST, INFLUENCE WAS BEING REDUCED. BRADY SAID MORALES HAD ASSURED HIM THAT THE AIRCRAFT

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WERE PURCHASED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERU'S NEED TO REPLACE

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT, AND BRADY STRESSED THAT HE FOUND PERUVIANS DISPOSED NOT TO CREATE TENSIONS WITH CHILE.

3. BRADY REPEATED HIS STATEMENT IN LIMA THAT THERE ARE "THIRD COUNTRIES WHICH ARE INTERESTED IN SEEING PERU AND CHILE CONFRONT EACH OTHER, A CONFRONTATION FROM WHICH ONLY THEY WOULD DERIVE BENEFIT." AIR FORCE COMMANDER AND JUNTA MEMBER LEIGH HIT THE SAME NOTE IN AN OCTOBER 25 SPEECH IN ANTOFAGASTA. LEIGH SPECIFIED THAT THESE THIRD COUNTRIES WERE THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA.

4. COMMENT: AT HOME THE CHILEANS ARE NOW PLAYING THE PURCHASE OF THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE SOVIETS TO DRIVE WEDGES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES RATHER THAN AN INDICATION OF BELLICOSE INTENT ON THE PART OF THE PERUVIANS. THERE IS NO INDICATION IN THE GOC'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF ITS PRIVATE RESERVATIONS ABOUT PERUVIAN INTENTIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANTIA10412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760403-0898
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976109/aaaaagwx.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SANTIAGO 10120, 76 LIMA 9849
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO PERU OF CHILEAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE HERMAN BRADY
TAGS: MILI, CI, PE, (BRADY, HERMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006